

### Humorous Department.

**The Fracture.**—"You know what a crank by brother Lucas is," said Miss Fretty Tamms. "He's so queer a body can't get along with him in any comfort, skurce, and have anything to say. I don't know why an old bachelor should be so ranktankerous, but so 'tis in his case. If I get a comfortable squabble started with him—and it's a real pleasure to quarrel with a relative at times, you know—he'll say his say, and then shut right up and point to himself for half a day. He's terrible unsociable, that way."

"Well, this morning I was telling him what I thought of most everything in general, and he sassed back for ten minutes or so, and then he snapped shut like a turtle and wouldn't say another word, and went upstairs to his room. I was scrubbing the floors, and after a while I got upstairs into the hall, and was still kinda discussing things with myself, that being more interesting than keeping still. And he came out of his room and started down stairs, prob'ly to get out of hearing, or something and he stepped on the cake of soap, and fopped up in the air, and went down stairs on the middle of his back, and broke his silence."

**Some Liars.**—An American traveler entered into conversation with a Boer farmer during a long and tiresome train journey, as an Englishman tells it.

As is the way of Americans, he started boasting on the U. S. A.

"Believe me," he said, "we had a cabbage so large over there that its shadows darkened Broadway. Suddenly it faded and decayed, and in time it was found that the rabbits in Australia had eaten away the roots."

"Some cabbage!" said the Boer.

"But when I was on the farm in South Africa we had an ostrich that ate an ink pad and numbering machine, and for the next three years every egg was dated and numbered."

**The Joke.**—"A funny thing happened over beyond Mount Pizgy tuther night," related Gap Johnson, of Rumpus Ridge. "A bunch of Whitecaps drug a feller out of bed and whaled him mighty nigh to a frazzle with hickory withes."

"What for?" inquired the neighbor to whom the incident was being related.

"That's the funny part of it! They went back the next night and owned right up that the joke was on him. They'd made a mistake and—yawn—haw! haw!—gone to the wrong house."

**How About This One?**—They were thrown into each other's society in a country house, without common interests or the least attraction for each other.

Finally, after casting about for a fertile subject of conversation, only to fail in every attempt, he said, desperately: "Will you marry me?"

She considered long and deeply.

"I think I'll say yes," she replied at last. "It will give us so much more to talk about while we're here."

**Almost Perfect.**—Movie fan, after reading the names of the author, the scenario writer, adapter, director, supervisor, photographer, art-titler and property man on the screen:

"Now, if I knew the name of the man who sweeps out the studio or who brings the onions for the star's tears, I could set right back and enjoy the picture."

**It All Depends.**—"Forty years ago," declared the self-made man, "I got my real beginning. I started out in New York with one hundred dollars. What do you think of that?"

"Well," returned the New Yorker, "it all depends on where you were going."

**A Ruling Passion.**—"Why in the world did she marry him? He has lost one leg, his hair is gone, one eye is out and he hasn't any teeth."

"He was her final, grand success. That woman has always had a mad passion for remnants."

**His Will.**—"My nephew, who lately graduated from the state university," a trifle ruefully confessed Farmer Bentover, "complains that I am so ill-bred that a gentleman can hardly live off from me without losing his self-respect."

**Seeing How to Sleep.**—"Why do you want a light left in your room when you go to bed, dear?" asked little Lela's mother. "Are you afraid?"

"No, mamma," replied Lela, "I want it so that I can see to go to sleep."

**More to the Point.**—"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," quoted the Parlor Philosopher.

"And what is more to the point, it costs less," amended the Mere Man.

**Seasonable.**—Rastus: Dis heah old watch yer sold me last week loses time badly.

Peddler: It ain't the watch dat's goin' slower. It's the days what's gettin' longer.

**Incredible.**—"One-half of the world knoweth not how the other half liveth," quoted the philosopher.

"Gee," cried the skeptic, "I didn't know there were so many people in the world who minded their own business."

**A Long Parting.**—He: Why are you so sad, darling?

She: I was just thinking this is the last evening we can be together until tomorrow.

### PRESIDENT TO CONGRESS.

(Continued From Page One.)

and appeals to minimize the likelihood and throw off the crushing burdens of armament. It is all very earnest, with a national soul impelling. But a people unemployed and gaunt with hunger, face a situation quite as disheartening as war and our greater obligation today is to do the government's part toward resuming productivity and promoting fortunate and remunerative employment.

Something more than tariff protection is required by American agriculture. To the farmer has come the earlier and heavier burdens of readjustment. There is actual depression in our agricultural industry, while agricultural prosperity is absolutely essential to the general prosperity of the country.

#### Relief for Farmers.

Congress has sought very earnestly to provide relief. It has promptly given such temporary relief as has been possible, but the call is insistent for the permanent solution. It is inevitable that the large crops lower the prices and short crops advance them. No legislation can secure that fundamental law. But there must be some economic solution for the excessive variation in returns for agricultural production.

It is rather shocking to be told, and to have the statement strongly supported that nine million bales of cotton raised on American plantations in a given year, will actually be worth more to the producers than thirteen million bales would have been. Equally shocking is the statement that 700,000,000 bushels of wheat raised by American farmers, would bring them more money than a billion bushels. Yet these are not exaggerated statements. In a world where there are tens of millions who need food and clothing which they cannot get, such a condition is sure to indict the social system which makes it possible.

In the main the remedy lies in distribution and marketing. Every proper encouragement should be given to the cooperative marketing programmes. These have proven very helpful to the cooperating communities in Europe. In Russia the cooperative community has become the recognized bulwark of the law and order, and saved individualism from engulfment in social paralysis. Ultimately they will be accredited with the salvation of the Russian state.

There is the appeal for this experiment. Why not try it? No one challenges the right of the farmer to a larger share of the consumer's pay for his product. No one disputes that we cannot live without the farmer. He is justified in rebelling against the transportation cost. Given a fair return for his labor, he will have less occasion to appeal for financial aid; and given assurance that his labors shall not be in vain, we reassure all the people of a production sufficient to meet our national requirements and guard against disaster.

#### Labor Problem.

While this set of problems is commonly comprehended under the general phrase, "capital and labor" it is really vastly broader. It is a question of social and economic organization. Labor has become a larger contributor through its savings to the stock of capital, while the people who own the largest individual aggregates of capital are themselves often hard and earnest laborers. Very often it is extremely difficult to draw the line of demarcation between the two groups. To determine whether a particular individual is entitled to be set down as a laborer or as a capitalist. In a very large proportion of cases he is both, and when he is both he is the most useful citizen.

The right of labor to organize is just as fundamental and necessary as is the right of capital to organize. The right of labor to negotiate, to deal with and solve its project problems in an organized way, through its authorized agents is just as essential as is the right of capital to organize to maintain corporations, to limit the liabilities of stockholders. Indeed, we have come to recognize the limited liability of the citizen as a member of a labor organization closely parallels the limitation of liability of the citizen as a stockholder in a corporation for profit. Along this line of reasoning, we shall make the greatest progress toward solution of our problems of capital and labor.

In the case of the corporation which enjoys the privilege of limited liability of stockholders, particularly when engaged in the public service, when recognized that the outside public has a large concern which must be protected; and we provide regulations, restrictions and in some cases detailed supervisions. Likewise, in the case of labor organizations, we might well apply similar and equally well-defined principles of regulation and supervision in order to conserve the public's interests as affected by their operations.

Just as it is not desirable that a corporation shall be allowed to impose undue actions upon the public, so it is not desirable that a labor organization shall be permitted to exact unfair terms on persons or subject the public to actual distresses in order to enforce its terms. Finally, just as we are earnestly seeking for procedures whereby to adjust and settle political differences between nations without resort to war, so we may well look about for means to settle the differences between organized capital and organized labor without resort to those forms of warfare which we recognize under the name of strikes, lockout, boycotts and the like.

As we have great bodies of law carefully regulating the organization and operations of industrial and financial corporations, as we have treaties and compacts among nations which look to the settlement of the differences without the necessity of conflict in arms, so we might well have plans of

conference of common counsel, of mediation and arbitration and judicial determination in controversies between labor and capital. To accomplish this would involve the necessity to develop a thorough-going code of practice in dealing with such affairs. It might be well to frankly set forth the superior interest of the community as a whole, to either the labor group or the capital group. With rights, privileges, immunities and modes of organization thus carefully defined it should be possible to set up judicial or quasi judicial tribunals for the consideration and determination of all disputes which menace the public welfare.

#### Homes for Soldiers.

After each war, until the last, the government has been enabled to give homes to its returned soldiers, and a large part of our settlement and development has attended this generous provision of land for the nation's defenders.

There is yet unreserved approximately 200,000,000 acres in the public domain, 20,000,000 of which are known to be susceptible of reclamation and made fit for homes by provision for irrigation.

#### Famine in Russia.

While we are thinking of promoting the fortunes of our own people I am sure there is room for the sympathetic thought of America for fellow human beings who are suffering and dying of starvation in Russia. A severe drought in the valley of the Volga has plunged 15,000,000 people into grievous famine. Our voluntary agencies are exerting themselves to the utmost to save the lives of children in this area, but it is now evident that unless relief is afforded the loss of life will extend into many millions. America can not be deaf to such a call as that.

We do not recognize the government of Russia, nor tolerate the propaganda which emanates therefrom, but we do not forget the traditions of Russian friendship. We may put aside our consideration of all international politics and fundamental differences in government. The big thing is the call for the suffering and the dying. Unreservedly I recommend the appropriation necessary to supply the American relief administration with 10,000,000 bushels of corn and 100,000,000 bushels of seed grain, not alone to halt the wave of death through starvation, but to enable spring planting in areas where the seed grains have been exhausted temporarily to stem starvation.

Many of us belong to that school of thought which is hesitant about altering the fundamental law. I think our tax problems, the tendency of wealth to seek non-taxable investment, and the manning increase of public debt—federal, state and municipal—all justify a proposal to change the legislation so as to end the issue of non-taxable bonds. No action can change the status of many billions outstanding, but we can guard against future encouragement of capital's paralysis while a halt in the growth of public indebtedness would be beneficial throughout our whole land.

Agreeable to our expressed desire and in complete accord with the purposes of the legislative branch of the government, there is in Washington, as you happily know, an international conference now most earnestly at work on plans for the limitation of armament, a naval holiday and the just settlement of problems which might develop into causes of international disagreement.

It is easy to believe a world hope is centered on this capital city. A most gratifying world accomplishment is not improbable.

**Affairs of South Carolina.**—The state of South Carolina never faced more difficult problems, economically than it faces at the present time. And for this reason the approaching session of the general assembly in which body these problems will exert an influence, may become either the most constructive or the most neglectful body of South Carolinians ever assembled in the state house.

Because of agricultural conditions, in the greater area of the state, presenting difficulties unknown before, coming at a time when the fundamental problem of taxation developed an acute stage through pressing demands of progress, the next legislature will have its hands full.

While one element in the state cries out against the burden of taxation, falling upon lands unproductive under boll weevil conditions, another element calls for greater expenditure, for schools and highways. There are even those who talk of great state bond issues for highway building and are prepared to press their argument.

Those who study the situation realize that the fundamental business before the next session of the general assembly is the revision of the tax system of the state. But these same students of the situation have been urging that for several years without results in the general assembly, and it is possible that again they may march up the hill and down again. Because the state is really facing a revolution in its agricultural methods, it is all the more important that its affairs be set in order and its resources assembled for the fight that is ahead. The state must make progress and it can afford to make progress, if its revenues are increased through an equitable contribution by all elements of property.

The present condition can be made the starting point towards greater things in the state, if the representatives of the people of the state, who assemble in Columbia this winter will fully comprehend their opportunity for constructive statesmanship. If the general assembly plays the constructive game it will win.—Spartanburg Herald.

—God give us men, and then help us to provide jobs for them.

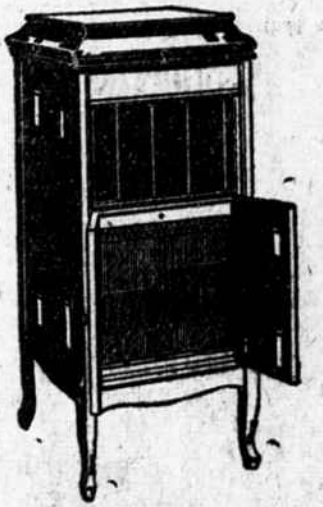
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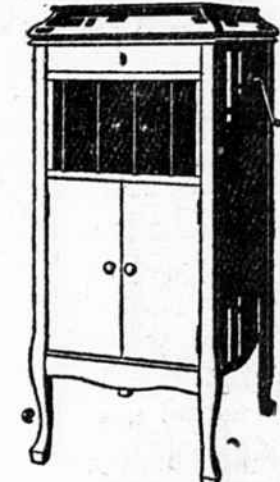
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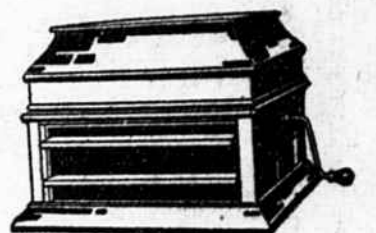
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